

Devoted to the Interests of the Schools, Teachers and Children of Virginia.

Why We Are In Favor of the Multiple List

By WM. A. BOWLES, Staunton, Va.

By DAVID L. PULLIAM

PÉDAGOGUE.

Mr. G. Nier, principal of the Front Royal school, also made a spirited talk upon

We regret that our convictions prevent us from jumping into the 'band wagon'

A public library should be, and usually is, where properly managed, and made attractive to young men, a great promoter of the morals and good order of a city or community. Rendered accessible, brightly lighted and well heated, with fine reading rooms, courteous and a proachable officials, a home-like and hospitable flavor pervading all of its departments, young men will seek it, and coming portals and be profited not only by what they actually gain, but by the protection from evil and the abstinence from frequenting places that would demoralize and debase. Reading good books always has a tendency to elevate the mind and heart, and to employ the time of young men and women. Constant contact with good books, and these great moral influences and noble examples build up in the soul lofty ideals and splendid patterns. The young men thus become influenced for their betterment and their leisure moments are used in useful and purifying converse with great minds and fine characters, and they are shielded from the temptations and pernicious associations and associates that would lower them. What they read enlightens and strengthens, while it elevates and purifies. If boys begin in this way they may never cultivate habits of dissipation and vice, but remain pure and uncontaminated. This function of the library is one of its most potent and beautiful and valuable. Every city could make no more excellent investment than in the prevention or restraint of the bad habits of her youth. This splendid and refining influence on the people should compel the establishment of a fine library in the city, if nothing else does. It has been the custom in many places, and its successful operation there, also, to arrange and should convince all of its usefulness here.

G. E. RCY,
Superintendent for Warren county

MRS. B. M. CONE, Secretary.

Isle of Wight, VII.

We need a longer term to fix the

most encouraging. Our people are
thoroughly in earnest and the commit-

On Friday, the 23d, Dr. Robert Fraser, Dr. Bruce Payne and Professor Charles B. Maphis, inspector and examiner for the fifth circuit, in which Warren is included, were with us. Mr. Maphis told of the outlook of public schools in Virginia. He realizes the enormity of the work to be done, and realizes that it will take time to accomplish it, yet he thinks

Saturday being teachers' day, the sessions were devoted almost entirely to reports from the various schools, which were very encouraging.

Professor J. D. Harris, principal of the Strasburg Graded School, made a very interesting and helpful address upon

The child of poverty is quick to note the bright, attractive school-room. So he thought of improving the school building, which has been in operation on nearly thirty years, has been in my mind for months. I approached the

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir.—I am neither one of the three—superintendent, teacher or trustee—but feel a great interest in the work of the public schools. The first step in the right direction is to put in efficient teachers, those whom work from a sense of

For the pupils can peep upon the outside world. The rooms on the inside are in fact as bad as the outside. The school is in the building. At the beginning of the present school session the rooms were adorned with pictures, there were no shades at the windows, the teachers had no desks, and the pupils had no seats—altogether no appliances with which to work—that is, there were no maps, globes, geometrical figures, charts, etc. But this state of affairs is soon to be changed. The school board, at the first of January an educational meeting was held here, which was very largely

attended by the citizens of Crozet. Those people were addressed at this meeting by Dr. Bruce R. Payne, of the University of Virginia; Mr. Robert C. Frazer, of the Southern Educational Council; and Mr. Charles O. Maphis, school examiner for this district. They succeeded in arousing a large amount of enthusiasm in the interest of a better school movement. After the speaking the people organized themselves into the Citizens' School Improvement League, of Crozet, with Mr. David Crown as president. The first object of the league was to raise money to buy necessary equipment for the school. With that object in view, they held on the 22d of February a Washington reception at the school building. As a result of this work the treasurer of the league now has \$70 with which to purchase maps, globes, etc.

The great work of the league is to build by next session a five or six-room brick schoolhouse. For this reason the people of Crozet are intensely anxious to see the school building loan bill passed by the Legislature, for if this bill passes it will be an easy matter for the people here to have a good high school, with an attendance of 100 or 150 pupils next session. It is to do this that the general opinion of the neighborhood that it will be almost impossible for them to have a new school building by next year.

E. F. BIRKHEAD.